IDW
ISSUE
32
SAM KIETH • JIM SINCLAIR • RONDA PATTISON
THE
MAXX
MAXXIMIZED
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STORY AND ART BY
SAM KIETH

FINISHES BY
JIM SINCLAIR

COLORS BY
RONDA PATTISON

LETTERS BY
KELL-O-GRAPHICS

EDITS BY
SCOTT DUNBIER

PUBLISHER
TED ADAMS

THE MAXX created by Sam Kieth • Production Assistance by Chris Mowry & Jack Rivera

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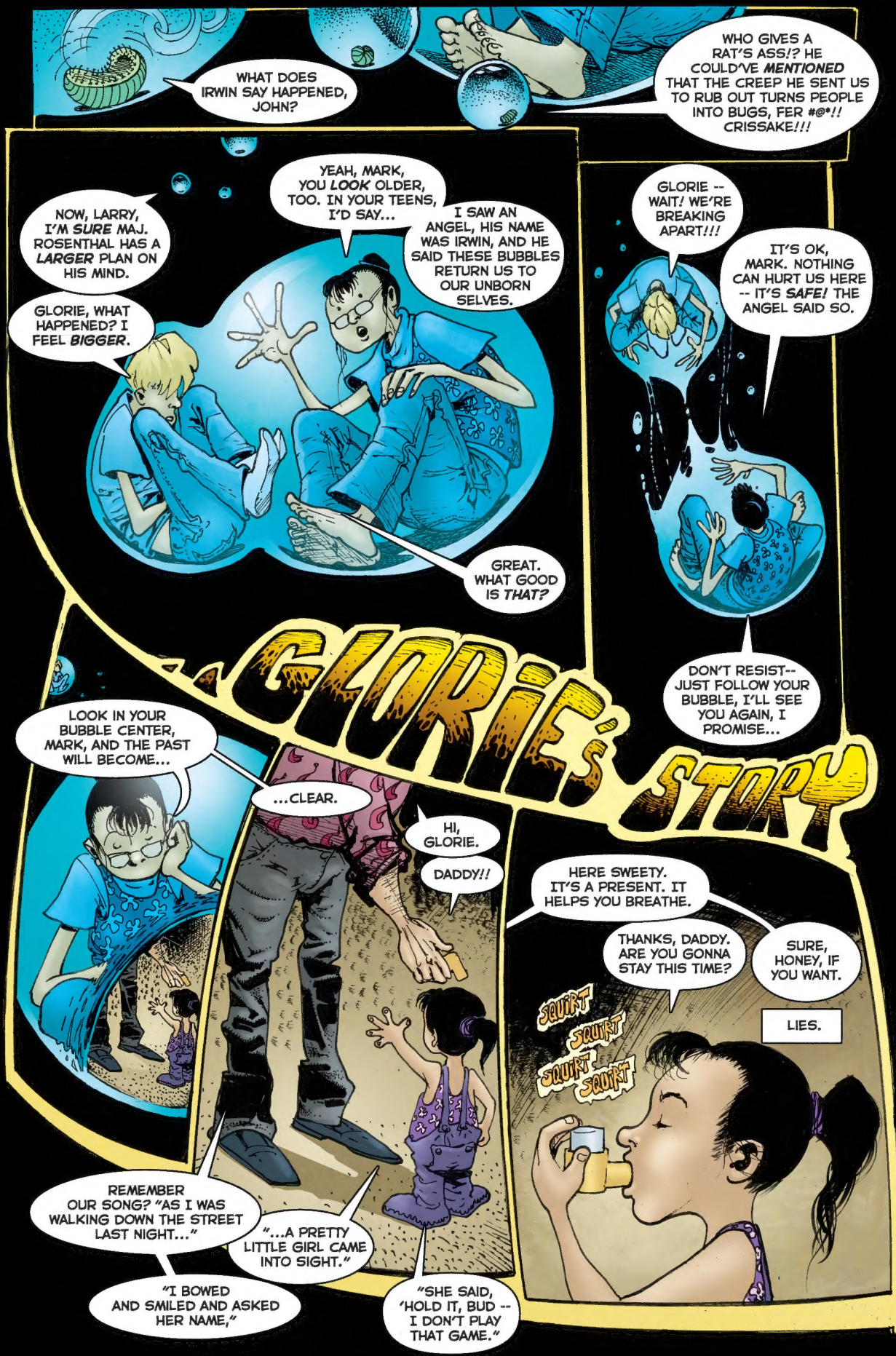
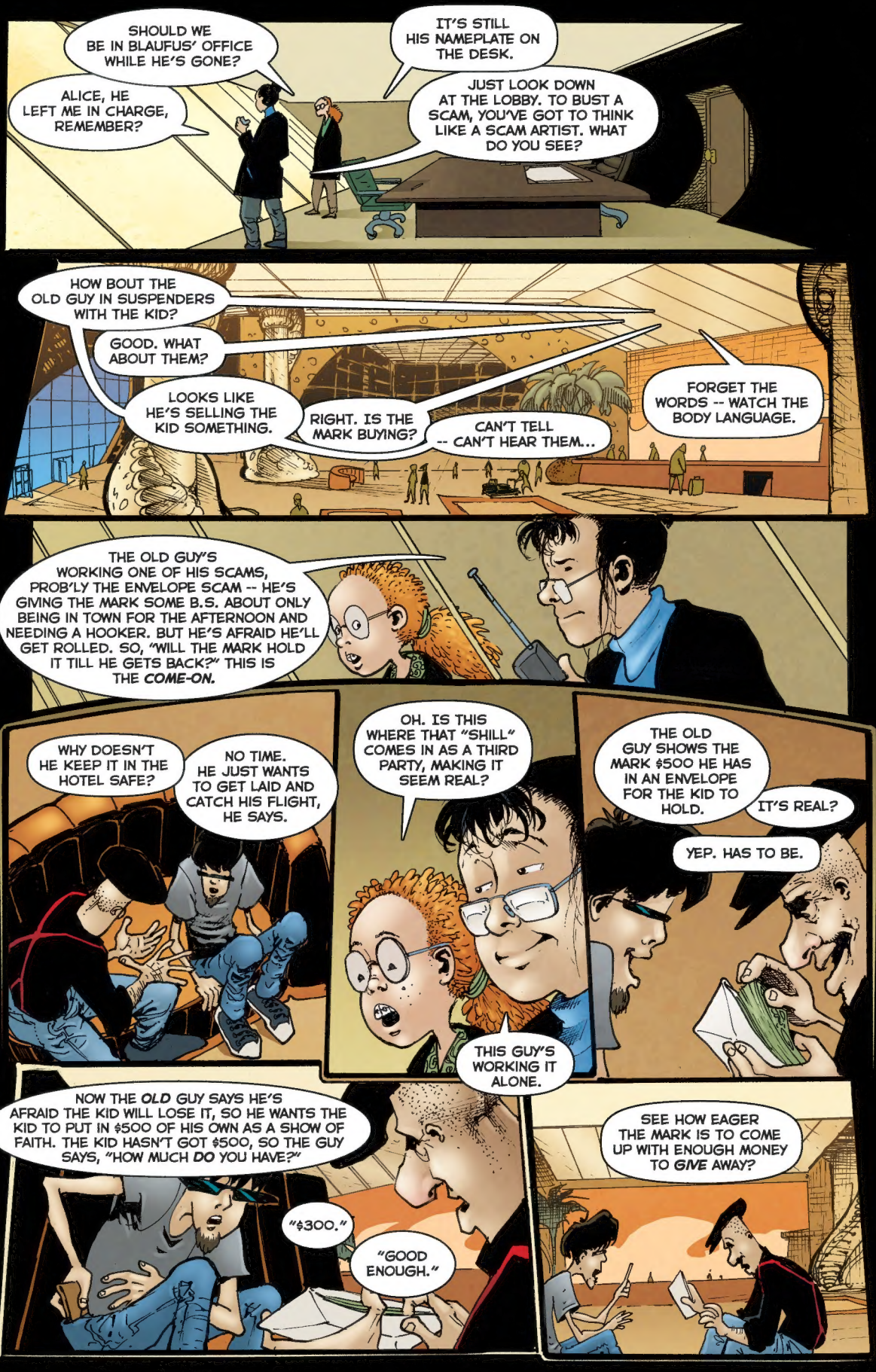
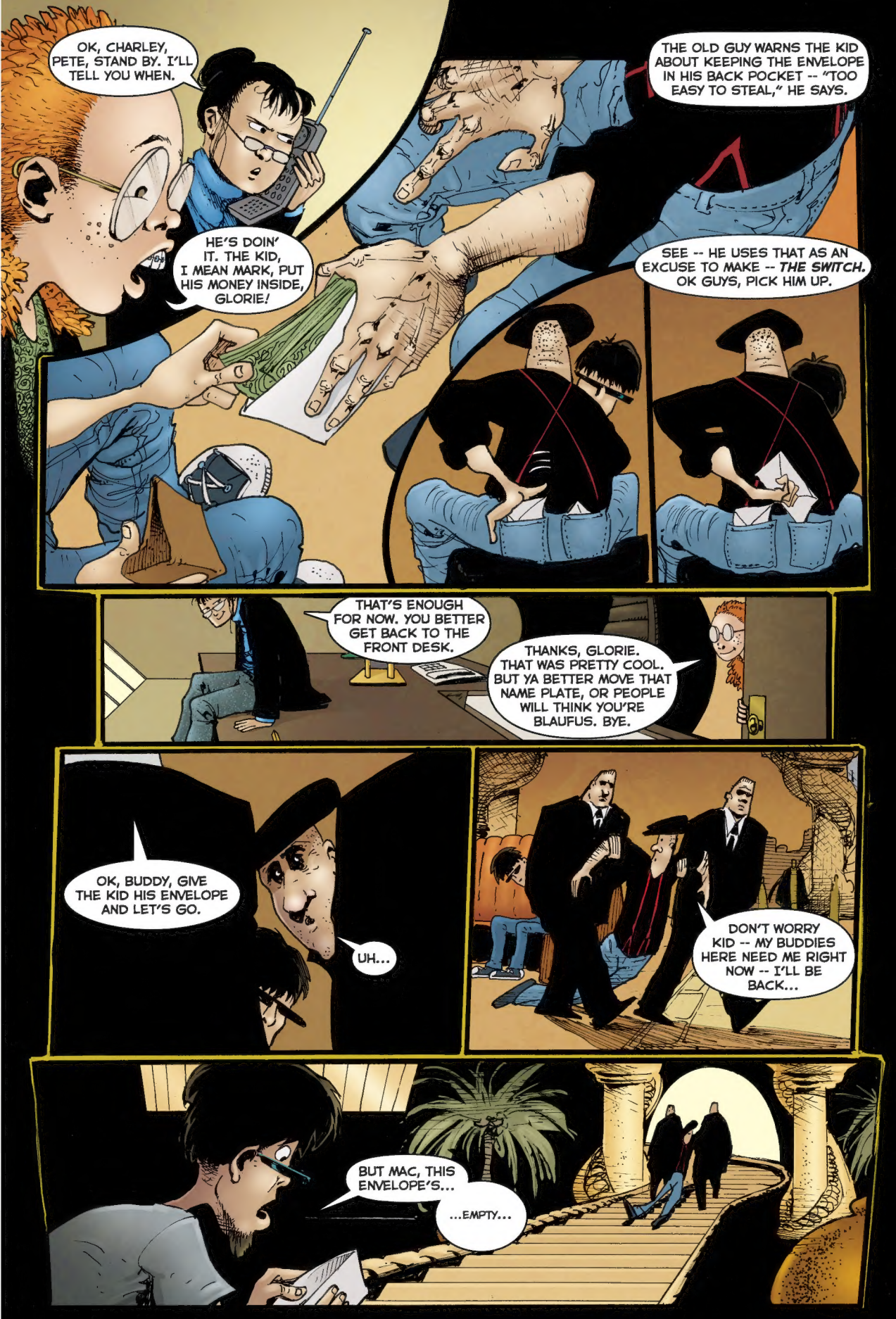
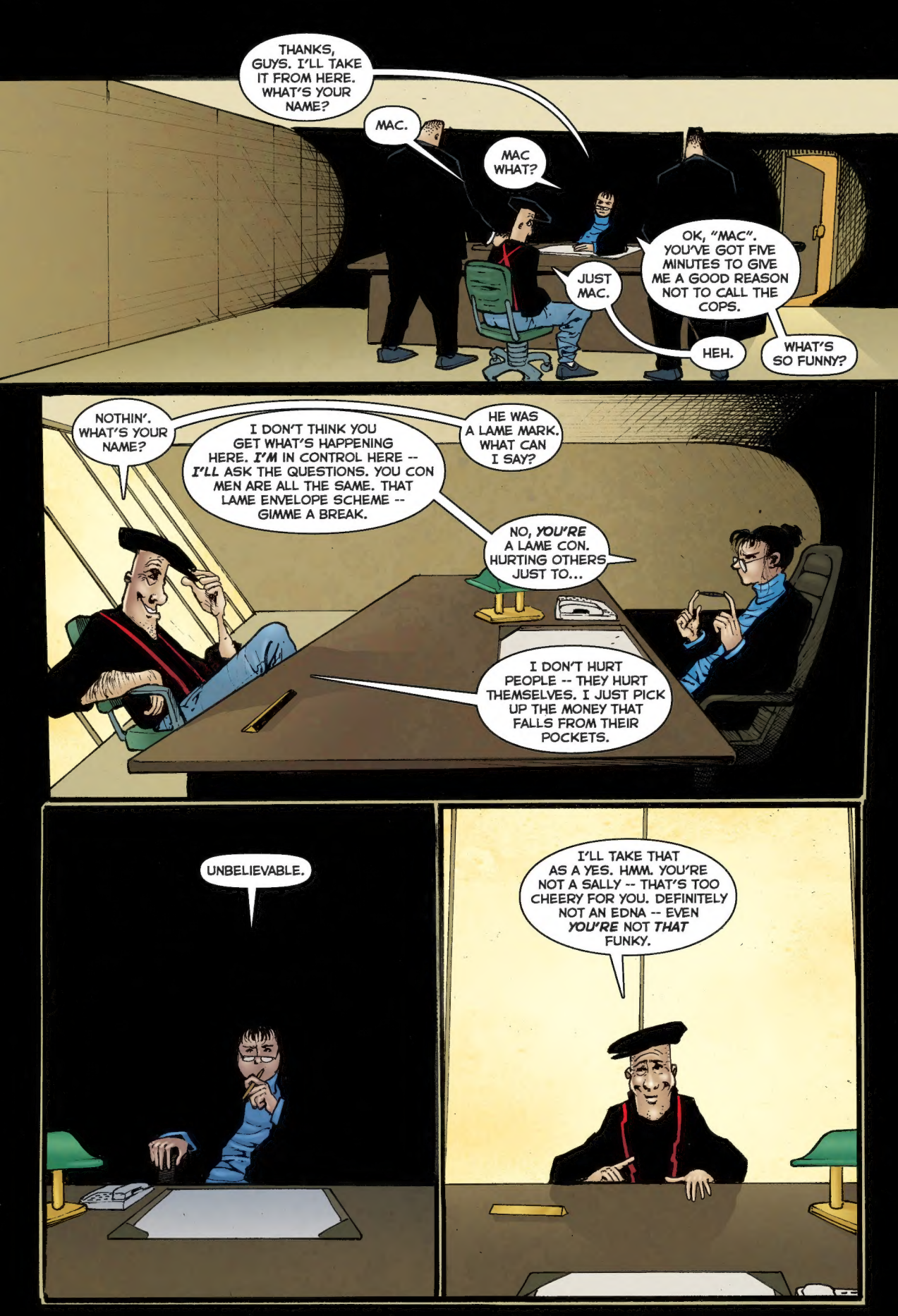
THE WOMAN I BROUGHT IS OUR ONLY CHANCE TO STRAIGHTEN THIS ALL OUT. SHE'S WAITING OUTSIDE. I BELIEVE YOU KNOW HER AS...
HEY MOM, LOOK -- THE FOOTBALL THING'S WAKING UP!
MAXX! WHAT'S WITH THE LAMPSHADE?
HEY -- IT WAS YOUR IDEA, REMEMBER?
WELL, LET'S SEE IF WE CAN'T TWEAK IT A BIT.
LESSEE.....THERE!
YES!!! THE OLD MAXX'S BACK!
BUT YOU'RE STILL DAVE, TOO -- RIGHT?
WHO'S DAVE?
SH*T!
HEY THESE BUBBLES HAVE...
DADDY, WHAT'S HAPPENING?
SARA?
...BUGS IN 'EM?
MATTOX, COME HERE, DAMMIT!
OH GOD, IT'S THE URN! GLORIE, DON'T OPEN IT!!!!
...BUT THERE'S LIGHT INSIDE...
ARTIE, IT'S GETTING...
...BRIGHTER.
HEY LARRY -- WHAT HAPPENED? EVERYTHING'S SORT OF...
...DISAPPEARED.


WHAT DOES IRWIN SAY HAPPENED, JOHN?
WHO GIVES A RAT'S ASS!? HE COULD'VE MENTIONED THAT THE CREEP HE SENT US TO RUB OUT TURNS PEOPLE INTO BUGS, FER #@*!! CRISSAKE!!!
NOW, LARRY, I'M SURE MAJ. ROSENTHAL HAS A LARGER PLAN ON HIS MIND.
YEAH, MARK, YOU LOOK OLDER, TOO. IN YOUR TEENS, I'D SAY...
I SAW AN ANGEL, HIS NAME WAS IRWIN, AND HE SAID THESE BUBBLES RETURN US TO OUR UNBORN SELVES.
GLORIE, WHAT HAPPENED? I FEEL BIGGER.
GREAT. WHAT GOOD IS THAT?
GLORIE -- WAIT! WE'RE BREAKING APART!!!
IT'S OK, MARK. NOTHING CAN HURT US HERE -- IT'S SAFE! THE ANGEL SAID SO.
DON'T RESIST-- JUST FOLLOW YOUR BUBBLE, I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN, I PROMISE...
GLORIE'S STORY
LOOK IN YOUR BUBBLE CENTER, MARK, AND THE PAST WILL BECOME...
...CLEAR.
HI, GLORIE.
DADDY!!
HERE SWEETY. IT'S A PRESENT. IT HELPS YOU BREATHE.
THANKS, DADDY. ARE YOU GONNA STAY THIS TIME?
SURE, HONEY, IF YOU WANT.
LIES.
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
REMEMBER OUR SONG? "AS I WAS WALKING DOWN THE STREET LAST NIGHT..."
"...A PRETTY LITTLE GIRL CAME INTO SIGHT."
"I BOWED AND SMILED AND ASKED HER NAME,"
"SHE SAID, 'HOLD IT, BUD -- I DON'T PLAY THAT GAME."

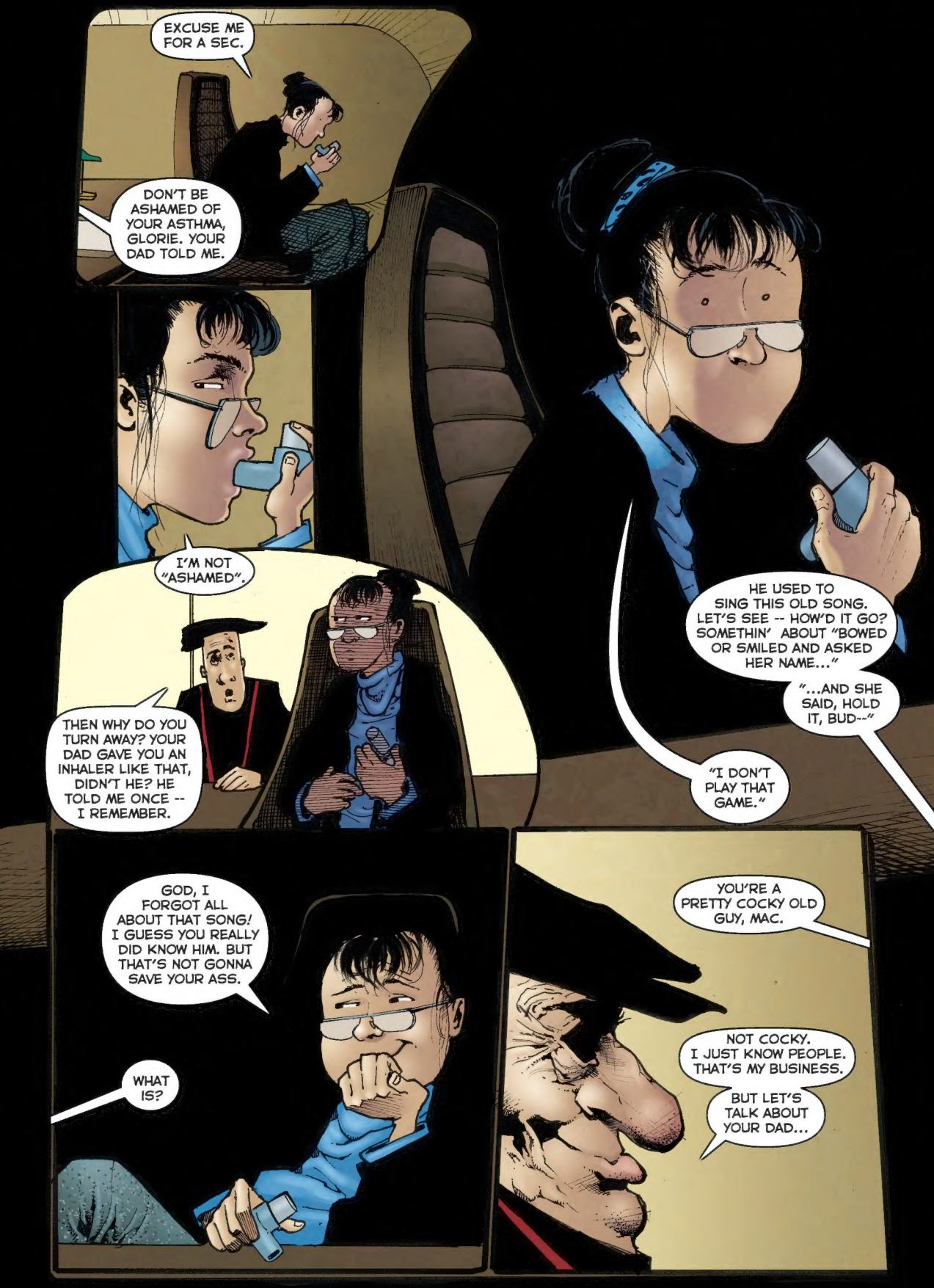
DAD ALWAYS MANAGED TO SAY WHAT PEOPLE WANTED TO HEAR...
...THEN LEAVE THEM EMPTY HANDED. Y'SEE, I BARELY REMEMBER MY REAL DAD. HE WAS A FLIMFLAM MAN. I NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN AFTER HE GAVE ME THAT INHALER.
RENO
MOM RAISED ME, AND SHE WAS THE ONLY ONE I GREW UP TRUSTING. WHENEVER I GOT IN TROUBLE, MOM SAID I REMINDED HER OF HIM.
THAT USUALLY STRAIGHTENED ME OUT.
NOW, TWENTY YEARS LATER, I WORK AT THIS HOTEL CASINO IN RENO, THE POOR MAN'S LAS VEGAS. I'M IN CHARGE OF HOTEL SECURITY.
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
IRONIC, HUH? ME, THE WORLD'S MOST *INSECURE*...


SHOULD WE BE IN BLAUFUS' OFFICE WHILE HE'S GONE?
ALICE, HE LEFT ME IN CHARGE, REMEMBER?
IT'S STILL HIS NAMEPLATE ON THE DESK.
JUST LOOK DOWN AT THE LOBBY. TO BUST A SCAM, YOU'VE GOT TO THINK LIKE A SCAM ARTIST. WHAT DO YOU SEE?
HOW BOUT THE OLD GUY IN SUSPENDERS WITH THE KID?
GOOD. WHAT ABOUT THEM?
LOOKS LIKE HE'S SELLING THE KID SOMETHING.
RIGHT. IS THE MARK BUYING?
CAN'T TELL -- CAN'T HEAR THEM...
FORGET THE WORDS -- WATCH THE BODY LANGUAGE.
THE OLD GUY'S WORKING ONE OF HIS SCAMS, PROB'LY THE ENVELOPE SCAM -- HE'S GIVING THE MARK SOME B.S. ABOUT ONLY BEING IN TOWN FOR THE AFTERNOON AND NEEDING A HOOKER. BUT HE'S AFRAID HE'LL GET ROLLED. SO, "WILL THE MARK HOLD IT TILL HE GETS BACK?" THIS IS THE *COME-ON.*
WHY DOESN'T HE KEEP IT IN THE HOTEL SAFE?
NO TIME. HE JUST WANTS TO GET LAID AND CATCH HIS FLIGHT, HE SAYS.
OH. IS THIS WHERE THAT "SHILL" COMES IN AS A THIRD PARTY, MAKING IT SEEM REAL?
THIS GUY'S WORKING IT ALONE.
THE OLD GUY SHOWS THE MARK $500 HE HAS IN AN ENVELOPE FOR THE KID TO HOLD.
IT'S REAL?
YEP. HAS TO BE.
NOW THE *OLD* GUY SAYS HE'S AFRAID THE KID WILL LOSE IT, SO HE WANTS THE KID TO PUT IN $500 OF HIS OWN AS A SHOW OF FAITH. THE KID HASN'T GOT $500, SO THE GUY SAYS, "HOW MUCH *DO* YOU HAVE?"
"$300."
"GOOD ENOUGH."
SEE HOW EAGER THE MARK IS TO COME UP WITH ENOUGH MONEY TO *GIVE* AWAY?


OK, CHARLEY, PETE, STAND BY. I'LL TELL YOU WHEN.
HE'S DOIN' IT. THE KID, I MEAN MARK, PUT HIS MONEY INSIDE, GLORIE!
THE OLD GUY WARNS THE KID ABOUT KEEPING THE ENVELOPE IN HIS BACK POCKET -- "TOO EASY TO STEAL," HE SAYS.
SEE -- HE USES THAT AS AN EXCUSE TO MAKE -- THE SWITCH. OK GUYS, PICK HIM UP.
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NOW. YOU BETTER GET BACK TO THE FRONT DESK.
THANKS, GLORIE. THAT WAS PRETTY COOL. BUT YA BETTER MOVE THAT NAME PLATE, OR PEOPLE WILL THINK YOU'RE BLAUFUS. BYE.
OK, BUDDY, GIVE THE KID HIS ENVELOPE AND LET'S GO.
UH...
DON'T WORRY KID -- MY BUDDIES HERE NEED ME RIGHT NOW -- I'LL BE BACK...
BUT MAC, THIS ENVELOPE'S...
...EMPTY...

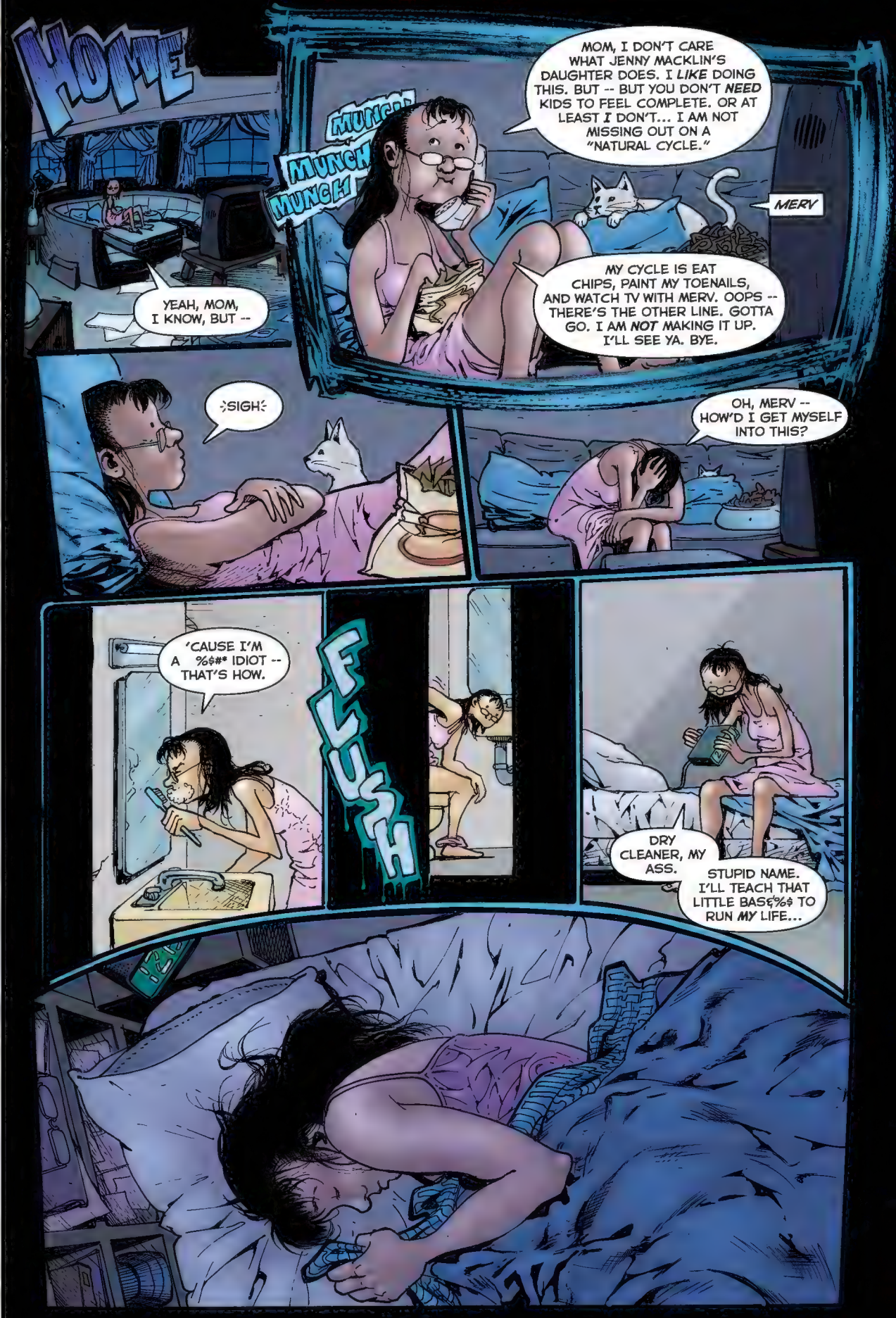

THANKS, GUYS. I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
MAC.
MAC WHAT?
JUST MAC.
OK, "MAC". YOU'VE GOT FIVE MINUTES TO GIVE ME A GOOD REASON NOT TO CALL THE COPS.
HEH.
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
NOTHIN'. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I DON'T THINK YOU GET WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE. *I'M* IN CONTROL HERE -- *I'LL* ASK THE QUESTIONS. YOU CON MEN ARE ALL THE SAME. THAT LAME ENVELOPE SCHEME -- GIMME A BREAK.
HE WAS A LAME MARK. WHAT CAN I SAY?
NO, *YOU'RE* A LAME CON. HURTING OTHERS JUST TO...
I DON'T HURT PEOPLE -- THEY HURT THEMSELVES. I JUST PICK UP THE MONEY THAT FALLS FROM THEIR POCKETS.
UNBELIEVABLE.
I'LL TAKE THAT AS A YES. HMM. YOU'RE NOT A SALLY -- THAT'S TOO CHEERY FOR YOU. DEFINITELY NOT AN EDNA -- EVEN *YOU'RE* NOT *THAT* FUNKY.

KEEP JOKING, "MAC". YOU'RE JUST DIGGING YOURSELF IN DEEPER.
THREE MINUTES LEFT.
JOKING?!? I ASSURE YOU...
...I TAKE ALL THIS *VERY*...
... SERIOUSLY ... UH...
...YOUR DAD.
GLORIE! THOUGHT I'D SAY, "BLAUFUS", DINCHA? SORRY -- I CHEATED. ACTUALLY I KNEW ANOTHER OLD GRIFTER LIKE ME...
THAT'S A CONVENIENT THING TO REMEMBER RIGHT NOW.
SO YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME.
WOULD *YOU?*
PROB'LY NOT.
SO WHO'S BLAUFUS? YOUR BOSS? KINDA RISKY, PRETENDING TO BE THE BOSS, ISN'T IT?
YOU'VE GOT TO REMEMBER TO CHANGE THE NAME PLATE NEXT TIME. DON'T WORRY -- YOUR LITTLE SECRET'S SAFE WITH ME.


EXCUSE ME FOR A SEC.
DON'T BE ASHAMED OF YOUR ASTHMA, GLORIE. YOUR DAD TOLD ME.
I'M NOT "ASHAMED".
THEN WHY DO YOU TURN AWAY? YOUR DAD GAVE YOU AN INHALER LIKE THAT, DIDN'T HE? HE TOLD ME ONCE -- I REMEMBER.
HE USED TO SING THIS OLD SONG. LET'S SEE -- HOW'D IT GO? SOMETHIN' ABOUT "BOWED OR SMILED AND ASKED HER NAME..."
"...AND SHE SAID, HOLD IT, BUD--"
"I DON'T PLAY THAT GAME."
GOD, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT THAT SONG! I GUESS YOU REALLY DID KNOW HIM. BUT THAT'S NOT GONNA SAVE YOUR ASS.
WHAT IS?
YOU'RE A PRETTY COCKY OLD GUY, MAC.
NOT COCKY. I JUST KNOW PEOPLE. THAT'S MY BUSINESS.
BUT LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR DAD...

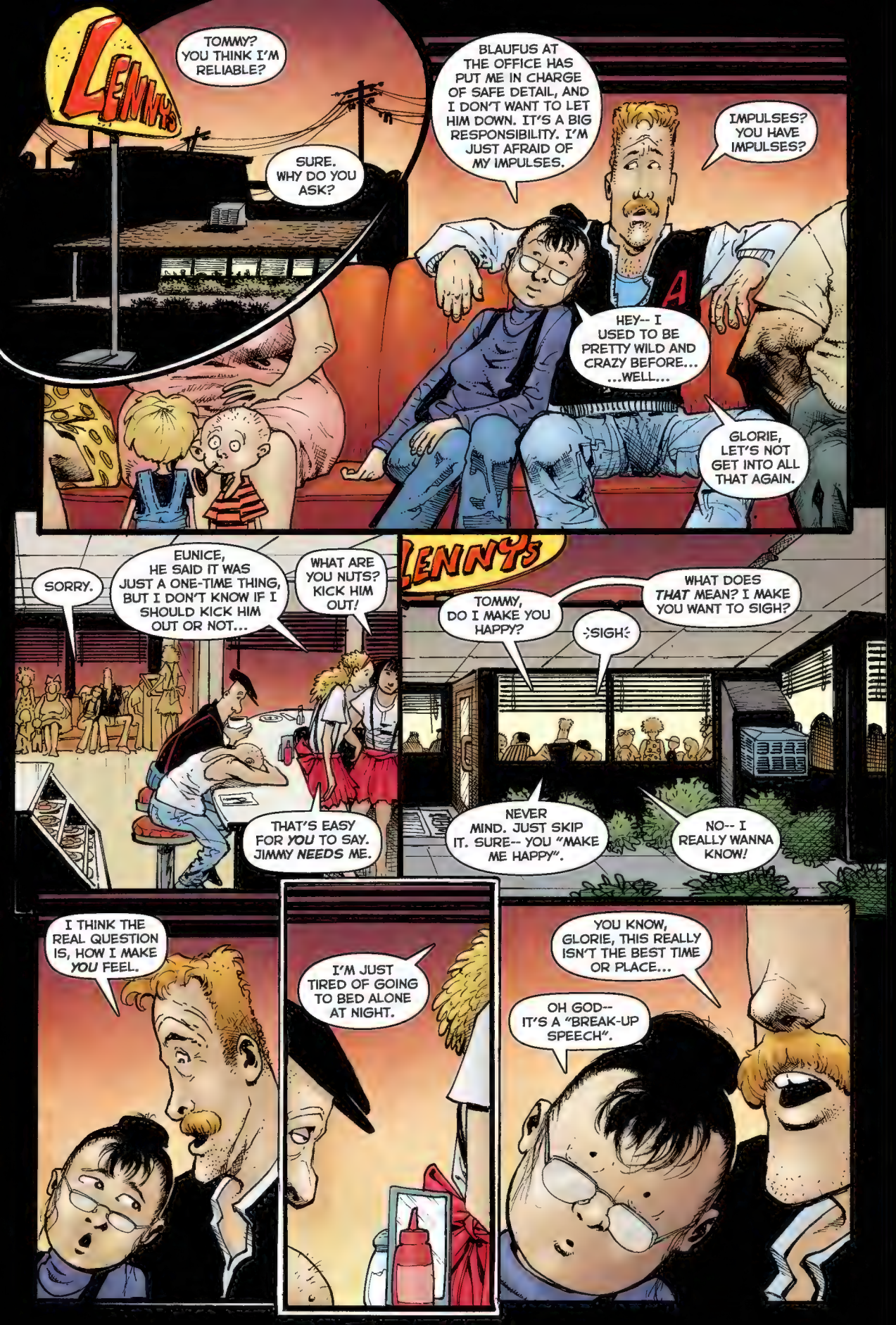
HE WAS A CROOK, A LIAR, AND ALL TALK -- NO ACTION. THAT'S WHY I TOOK THIS JOB -- TO LEARN HOW TO NEVER BE A MARK MYSELF.
LIKE I SAID, KNOWING HIM CUTS YOU NO SLACK WITH ME.
THAT'S TOO BAD, 'CAUSE I KNOW FOR A *FACT*...
...HE CARED FOR YOU.
NOW WHO'S CONNING WHO. BUT I'LL GIVE YOU THIS--
-- YOU GOT ME TO LET YOU OFF. I RESPECT THAT.
ME'N YOUR DAD WENT WAY BACK. I COULD TELL YOU STORIES...
TIME'S UP. NOW BEAT IT, BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND.
YOU WON'T CHANGE YOUR MIND.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?

YOUR WEAKNESS WAS A "TELL". I MAY HAVE PLAYED A FEW HEARTSTRINGS, BUT *YOU* DID THE REST.
THE MARK *WANTS* TO BELIEVE. BUT EVERYTHING I SAID ABOUT YOUR DAD CARING FOR YOU WAS TRUE. UNLIKE HIM, I DON'T LIE -- EXCEPT PROFESSIONALLY, OF COURSE.
NO REALLY -- WHAT'S MY WEAKNESS?
YOU GAVE ME FIVE MINUTES.
CLICK
GLORIE, I'VE GOT A CALL FROM YOUR DRY CLEANER ON THE LINE --
I'LL PUT IT ON THE SPEAKER, LISA.
HEY, TOOTS, GUESS WHO? LISTEN, I'M COMING BY FOR A "WITHDRAWAL" TONIGHT, OK?
UH... YOU THERE?
YEAH.
STUPID BITCH. WHY DON'T YOU F¢%$*@ ANSWER ME THEN? %#@*¢666!!!
AW SH*T, TOOTS! SEE WHAT YOU MADE ME GO AND DO?
SORRY, EDDIE.
LITTLE MISS "STUCK-UP PRINCESS" FORGETS HER ROOTS.
I GOTTA GO, EDDIE. BUT THIS IS THE *LAST TIME!* AND I MEAN IT!!
SURE, SURE, TOOTS. NO PROBLEM. THE LAST TIME. SEE YA TONIGHT.
THAT F%¢*$BAST@*$#...


HOME
YEAH, MOM, I KNOW, BUT --
MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH
MOM, I DON'T CARE WHAT JENNY MACKLIN'S DAUGHTER DOES. I *LIKE* DOING THIS. BUT -- BUT YOU DON'T *NEED* KIDS TO FEEL COMPLETE. OR AT LEAST *I* DON'T... I AM NOT MISSING OUT ON A "NATURAL CYCLE."
MERV
MY CYCLE IS EAT CHIPS, PAINT MY TOENAILS, AND WATCH TV WITH MERV. OOPS -- THERE'S THE OTHER LINE. GOTTA GO. I AM *NOT* MAKING IT UP. I'LL SEE YA. BYE.
:SIGH:
OH, MERV -- HOW'D I GET MYSELF INTO THIS?
'CAUSE I'M A %$#* IDIOT -- THAT'S HOW.
FLUSH
DRY CLEANER, MY ASS.
STUPID NAME. I'LL TEACH THAT LITTLE BAS€%$ TO RUN *MY* LIFE...

I HAD A DREAM. I WAS A KID AGAIN, PLAYING HOOKY IN MY BOSS'S OFFICE WITH AN OLD FRIEND FROM SCHOOL, NAMED SARA. ONLY SHE HAD A BIG, OVAL-SHAPED HEAD AND SAID "MEEP" A LOT.
THE HOTEL LOBBY WAS FILLED WITH PAPER AND GARBAGE. BUT WE WERE SAFE HERE INSIDE.
SUDDENLY, A DAGGER WITH A FACE ON THE HANDLE BREAKS THROUGH THE GLASS.
GARBAGE STARTS FLOODING IN THROUGH THE HOLE. I TRY TO PICK UP THE GARBAGE, BUT THERE'S TOO MUCH. IT KEEPS PILING UP.
THE KNIFE'S FACE IS THE CON FROM WORK.
HE LAUGHS.
IF THE BOSS FINDS THE OFFICE LIKE THIS, HE'LL GROUND ME FOREVER.
I CAN'T CLEAN IT UP FAST ENOUGH.
THEN I SEE WHAT'S ON THE PAPERS-- THEY'RE ALL DRY CLEANING BILLS!
KNOCK KNOCK!
SUDDENLY MY BOSS CALLS OUT, "GLORIE? I'M BACK! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY OFFICE?"
"YOU'RE JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER."

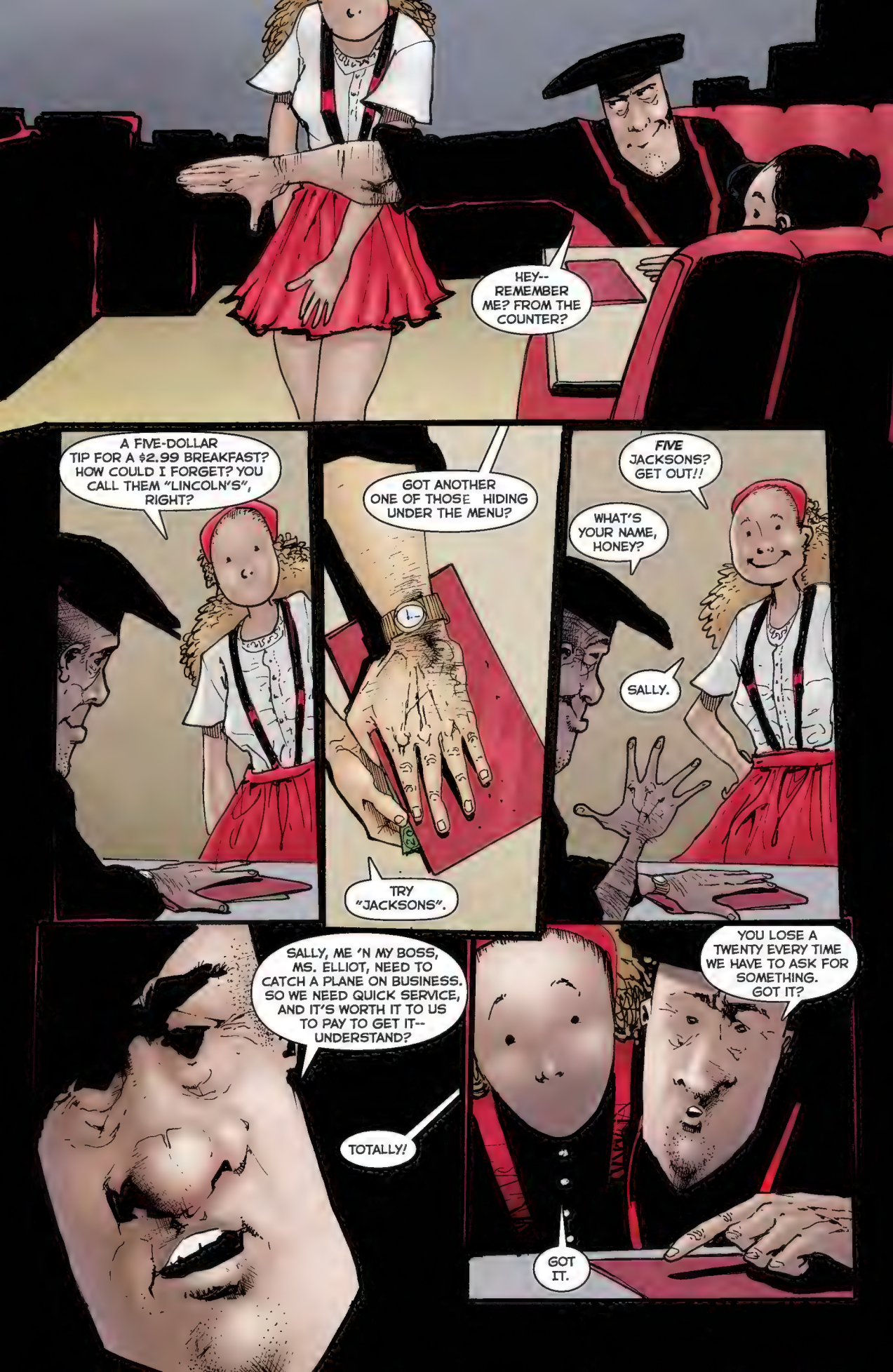
THE OFFICE LOOKS SPOTLESS, GLORIE. ANY PROBLEMS WHILE I WAS GONE?
GOOD, I ALWAYS KNOW I CAN RELY ON YOU TO RUN THINGS.
NOPE. A FEW VAGRANTS, BUT I HAD 'EM THROWN OUT, AS USUAL. NO BREAK-INS. EVERY GUEST IS SNUG AS A BUG.
I RESPECT A WOMAN THAT KNOWS HOW TO PROTECT HERSELF. THAT'S WHY I HIRED YOU. YOU CARRY A GUN OR MACE, RIGHT?
NO, BUT ONCE MY STEPDAD BOUGHT ME A KNIFE FOR PROTECTION.
DID IT WORK?
NO.
PITY. THEY DON'T MAKE THINGS LIKE THEY USED TO.
ANYWAY, THIS IS OUR NEW SAFE I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT.
PRIVATE
DO WE NEED A HOTEL SAFE THIS BIG?
PROB'LY NOT, BUT IT LOOKS COOL.
SERIOUSLY, THOUGH, PEOPLE GAMBLE AND HOLD LARGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY, AND IT'S UP TO YOU TO PROTECT IT. I'M RELYING ON YOU, GLORIE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR OWN FATHER WAS LIKE, BUT I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF YOU AS... WELL, YOU KNOW...
I KNOW, MR. B. DON'T WORRY-- YOU CAN COUNT ON ME.


LENNY'S
TOMMY? YOU THINK I'M RELIABLE?
SURE. WHY DO YOU ASK?
BLAUFUS AT THE OFFICE HAS PUT ME IN CHARGE OF SAFE DETAIL, AND I DON'T WANT TO LET HIM DOWN. IT'S A BIG RESPONSIBILITY. I'M JUST AFRAID OF MY IMPULSES.
IMPULSES? YOU HAVE IMPULSES?
HEY-- I USED TO BE PRETTY WILD AND CRAZY BEFORE... ...WELL...
GLORIE, LET'S NOT GET INTO ALL THAT AGAIN.
SORRY.
EUNICE, HE SAID IT WAS JUST A ONE-TIME THING, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD KICK HIM OUT OR NOT...
WHAT ARE YOU NUTS? KICK HIM OUT!
THAT'S EASY FOR *YOU* TO SAY. JIMMY *NEEDS* ME.
LENNY'S
TOMMY, DO I MAKE YOU HAPPY?
:SIGH:
WHAT DOES *THAT* MEAN? I MAKE YOU WANT TO SIGH?
NEVER MIND. JUST SKIP IT. SURE-- YOU "MAKE ME HAPPY".
NO-- I REALLY WANNA KNOW!
I THINK THE REAL QUESTION IS, HOW I MAKE *YOU* FEEL.
I'M JUST TIRED OF GOING TO BED ALONE AT NIGHT.
YOU KNOW, GLORIE, THIS REALLY ISN'T THE BEST TIME OR PLACE...
OH GOD-- IT'S A "BREAK-UP SPEECH".

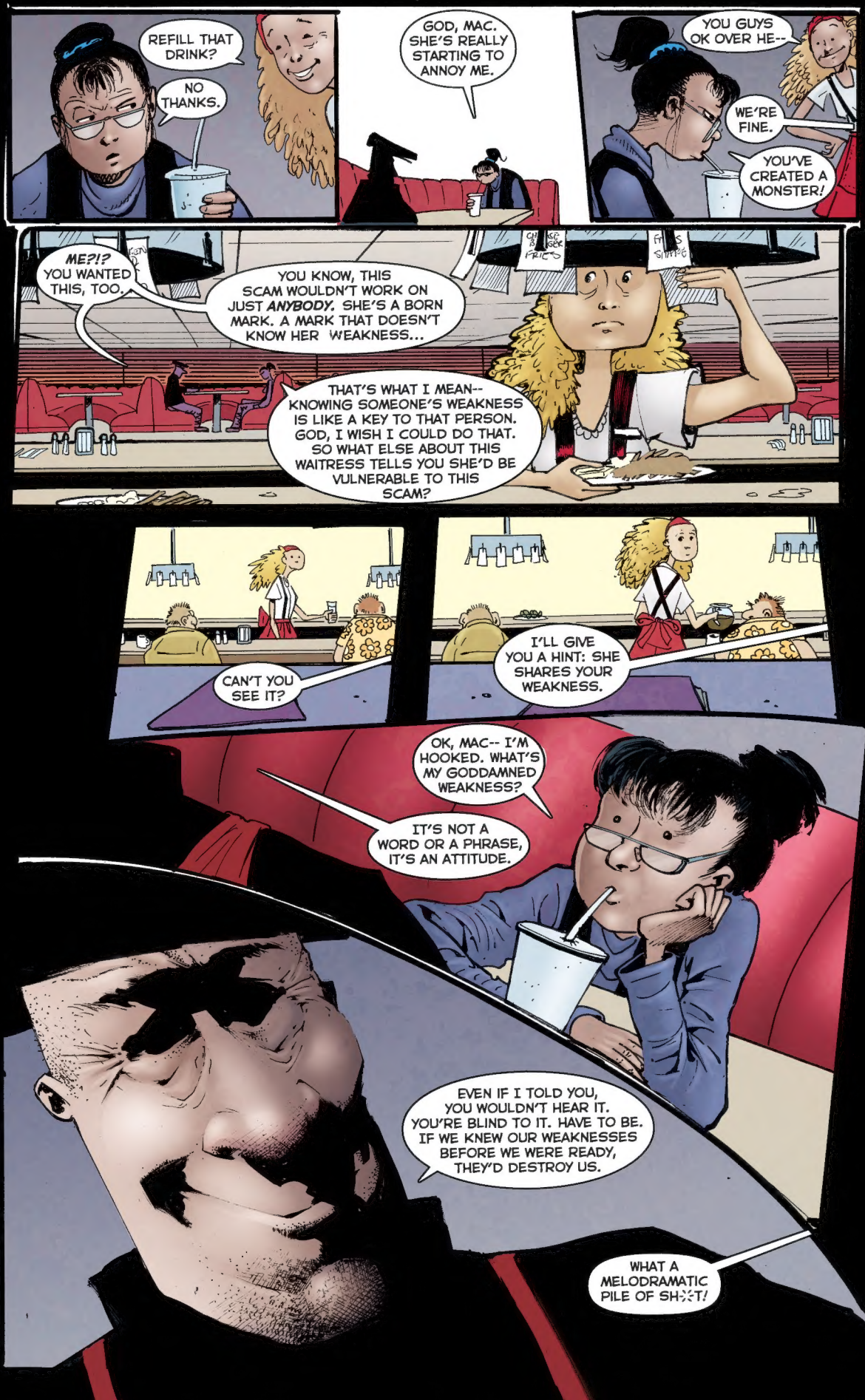
I FEEL LIKE WE'VE BEEN DRIFTING APART FOR A LONG TIME NOW. LIVING TOGETHER, BUT IN SEPARATE WORLDS-- YOU KNOW?
EVER SINCE THAT NIGHT, I'VE TRIED TO DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO BE THERE FOR YOU, BUT NOTHING I DO IS ENOUGH.
FIRST YOUR DAD LEAVING, THEN "HIM". I JUST CAN'T TAKE THE PRESSURE OF TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR...
EXCUSE ME?
TOMMY! YOU BIG DOPE! YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE UP FOR ANYTHING! JUST TELL ME I MAKE YOU HAPPY. TELL ME THAT MUCH, PLEASE?
I THINK IT'S CRUELLER TO PRETEND. I'M SICK OF PRETENDING, AREN'T YOU?
NOT YET-- NOT NOW!
JUST HOLD ME.
SEE-- WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS. YOU CAN'T EVEN GET ANGRY AT ME. THE MORE UNHAPPY YOU ARE, THE MORE YOU CLING, AND THE MORE I PULL AWAY.
OK, YOU SACK O' SH☆T! YOU WANT ANGER? I'LL GIVE YOU ANGER!! EVERYBODY $#@ç* LEAVES ME IN THE END-- WHY SHOULD YOU BE ANY %$#ç@ DIFFERENT?!?!
IF YOU WANNA LEAVE, BEAT IT! DON'T DRAG ME THROUGH THE ç%$#* MUD, PRETENDING TO CARE IN THE--
-- THE--
GLORIE! WHAT'S THE MATTER? CAN'T BREATHE? YOU LOOK BLUE! YOU BETTER--
THINK I'LL SIT DOWN.
DAMMIT! I DID THIS. WE BOTH KNOW YOU GETTING ANGRY CAUSES BREATHING TROUBLE. IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
DON'T KNOW WHICH IS WORSE-- LISTENING TO YOU FEEL GUILT, OR SUFFOCATING.
OK, IT'S COMING BACK.
GLORIE, CAN YOU HONESTLY SAY THAT YOU STILL LOVE ME?
I CAN'T DEAL WITH THIS.
HEY, LADY-- I PUT OUR NAME IN 20 MINUTES AGO.
SORRY, HON. I GUESS SOMEBODY FORGOT TO TAKE IT DOWN. I CAN PUT YOU DOWN HERE AT THE BOTTOM, THOUGH...
MUFFIN?

TOMMY, TAKE YOUR F¢$#* HAND OFF ME, OR I'LL RIP IT OFF YOUR ARM.
OH GOD, I'M SORRY. WE'RE *BOTH* PATHETIC.
NO, JUST WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER. SHOULD I LEAVE?
DO WHAT YOU F¢$%*# WANT.
GOODBYE, GLORIE.
YOUR TABLE'S READY!
THANKS ANYWAY, MA'M.
DAMMIT-- CAN'T BREATHE AGAIN.
SHOOT! MY INHALER'S EMPTY.
OK.
DON'T PANIC.
F**KIN TOMMY!
GOT TO RELAX. CALM DOWN...
MAC! WHAT ARE *YOU* DOING--
GOD, THEY'LL LET ANYBODY IN THIS PLACE.
OH GOD, NOT AGAIN...

HERE, BREATHE INTO THIS.
C'MON, LET'S GET OUT OF THIS NOISY RESTAURANT AND GO NEXT DOOR INTO THE...
...LOUNGE. THERE-- THAT'S BETTER. YOU OKAY?
YEAH, JUST RAN OUT OF...
AIR?
YEAH. SO, MAC-- YOU SNEAKIN' AROUND CORNERS NOW, TRYING TO CATCH ME ALL VULNERABLE?
EVERYONE'S VULNERABLE, HAS A WEAKNESS, A "TELL".
YEAH? SO WHAT'S YOURS?
FAIR ENOUGH. WE'VE GOTTA START *SOMEWHERE* IF YOU'RE EVER GONNA TRUST ME.
MY WEAKNESS IS I CARE ABOUT YOU. AND NOW MY WEAKNESS IS YOU *KNOW* IT. BUT LUCKILY YOU'RE TOO STUPID TO ACT ON IT.
DON'T BE TOO SURE.
EXCUSE ME, MA'M, COULD I--
DAMMIT! THESE BIMBOS ALWAYS IGNORE ME-- EVERYTIME! THEY KNOW I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY TO LEAVE A BIG TIP, SO THEY SNUB ME.
BECAUSE YOU LET 'EM. WATCH THIS...


HEY-- REMEMBER ME? FROM THE COUNTER?
A FIVE-DOLLAR TIP FOR A $2.99 BREAKFAST? HOW COULD I FORGET? YOU CALL THEM "LINCOLN'S", RIGHT?
GOT ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE HIDING UNDER THE MENU?
TRY "JACKSONS".
FIVE JACKSONS? GET OUT!!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, HONEY?
SALLY.
SALLY, ME 'N MY BOSS, MS. ELLIOT, NEED TO CATCH A PLANE ON BUSINESS. SO WE NEED QUICK SERVICE, AND IT'S WORTH IT TO US TO PAY TO GET IT-- UNDERSTAND?
TOTALLY!
YOU LOSE A TWENTY EVERY TIME WE HAVE TO ASK FOR SOMETHING. GOT IT?
GOT IT.

WELL, THAT GOT HER ATTENTION.
SHE'LL SPEND HER WHOLE SHIFT WITH HER EYES GLUED TO THAT MENU.
I OVERHEARD HER TALKING AT THE COUNTER ABOUT HER BOYFRIEND. WHY SHE OUTS UP WITH HIM...
... IS WHY SHE'LL SERVE US.
YOU MEAN YOU.
NO, YOU.
OH, RIGHT. LIKE I'M GONNA BLOW A HUNDRED BUCKS TO GET GOOD SERVICE IN A RESTAURANT EVERY TIME I GET SNUBBED.
YOUR WEAKNESS ISN'T BEING SHORT A HUNDRED BUCKS.
YEAH, SO WHAT IS IT THEN?
HEY-- I'M NOT GIVING UP VALUABLE INFORMATION LIKE THAT. I CAN PUSH YOUR BUTTONS ALL WEEK WITH YOUR WEAKNESS.
AND IF I FIGURE IT OUT FIRST?
THEN YOU WIN, AND I MOVE ON.
IT'S TEMPTING TO FIGURE IT OUT, JUST TO GET RID OF YOU! AND YOUR PLAN IS FAILING-- SHE NEVER BROUGHT OUR...
... DRINKS...
ONE COFFEE AND A SMALL MR. BIPP.
WHAT'D YOU HEAR THE WAITRESS SAY THAT MAKES IT SO EASY TO MANIPULATE HER?
I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF HER INBORN WEAKNESS, WHICH IS TO TOLERATE ABUSE BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID OF BEING ALONE.
YOU TALKING 'BOUT HER OR ME?
YOU TELL ME.


REFILL THAT DRINK?
NO THANKS.
GOD, MAC. SHE'S REALLY STARTING TO ANNOY ME.
YOU GUYS OK OVER HE--
WE'RE FINE.
YOU'VE CREATED A MONSTER!
ME?!? YOU WANTED THIS, TOO.
YOU KNOW, THIS SCAM WOULDN'T WORK ON JUST ANYBODY. SHE'S A BORN MARK. A MARK THAT DOESN'T KNOW HER WEAKNESS...
THAT'S WHAT I MEAN-- KNOWING SOMEONE'S WEAKNESS IS LIKE A KEY TO THAT PERSON. GOD, I WISH I COULD DO THAT. SO WHAT ELSE ABOUT THIS WAITRESS TELLS YOU SHE'D BE VULNERABLE TO THIS SCAM?
CAN'T YOU SEE IT?
I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT: SHE SHARES YOUR WEAKNESS.
OK, MAC-- I'M HOOKED. WHAT'S MY GODDAMNED WEAKNESS?
IT'S NOT A WORD OR A PHRASE, IT'S AN ATTITUDE.
EVEN IF I TOLD YOU, YOU WOULDN'T HEAR IT. YOU'RE BLIND TO IT. HAVE TO BE. IF WE KNEW OUR WEAKNESSES BEFORE WE WERE READY, THEY'D DESTROY US.
WHAT A MELODRAMATIC PILE OF SH*T!

YOU WANT A JOB?
SHOW ME ABOUT PEOPLE. ABOUT SCAMS. HELP ME AND MY EMPLOYEES KNOW OUR WEAKNESSES SO WE WON'T GET SCREWED.
WORKING FOR YOU? DOING WHAT?
IF YOUR BOSS KNEW ABOUT THIS, "PAYING AN EX-CON TO...
... HELPING ME PROTECT MYSELF AND THE HOTEL."
I NEED TO KNOW HOW TO PROTECT MYSELF.
I WON'T BE HURT BY ANYONE.
EVER AGAIN...
AND WHO'LL PROTECT YOU FROM ME?
WHY NOT?
OH, YOU WON'T HURT ME.
'CAUSE YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO LEARN FROM ME, TOO.
SURE, KID. DEAL. HEY-- LOOKEE.
NO MONEY?
MAC, THAT'S PATHETIC! SHE WORKED HER ASS OFF FOR NOTHING!
COMING UP EMPTY-HANDED IS WHAT A MARK KNOWS BEST.

SO YOU *HIRED* HIM? I DON'T KNOW IF MR. BLAUFUS IS GONNA GO FOR THAT.
HE WON'T *FIND OUT* IF YOU JUST STAY COOL, ALICE. I CAN HANDLE MAC. DON'T TELL BLAUFUS-- GOT IT?
OK, IF YOU SAY SO. CAN YOU WATCH THE DESK WHILE I GET SOME TWENTIES?
SURE.
EXCUSE ME, BUT COULD YOU TURN AWAY WHILE I GRAB SOME MONEY?
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'D DO THAT?
'CAUSE I $#%& SAID SO, BITCH!
THE DRY CLEANER! SO *THAT'S* WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE!
GOOD GIRL. THAT WASN'T SO HARD, WAS IT?
COURSE, YOU'LL HAVE TO COVER THE DIFFERENCE FROM YOUR OWN POCKET...
... SO THE BOSS WON'T FIND OUT WHAT AN...
... UNLOYAL LITTLE SH☆T YOU ARE, HUH?
SEE YA, TOOTS.
HEY, GLORIE-- I'M BACK, YOU OK?
...GLORIE?
END OF PART ONE